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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT

## INFORMATION REPORT

CD NO.

COUNTRY East Germany

DATE DISTR. 29 July 1955

SUBJECT Differences between Ulbricht and Stoph

NO. OF PAGES 1

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THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

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1. At the session of the GDR Council of Ministers held on 17 May 1955, Willi Stoph severely criticized the result of the Warsaw conference. Some people feared that he may have endangered his position as GDR Minister of the Interior by this sort of criticism. Willy Stoph also reported on the result of the Warsaw conference during the session of the People's Chamber on 20 May. In his report he demanded the speedy creation of an East German national army. It was believed that Stoph's attitude may have been influenced by KVP generals, especially by Vice-Admiral Paul Verner.
2. The line taken by Stoph was criticized by Pushkin. Stoph countered Pushkin's criticism by stating that nobody had forbidden making propaganda for the creation of an East German national army. Pushkin replied that he would not allow the over-all intentions of the Soviet foreign policy to be interfered with by Stoph's ambition and that he would talk with Ulbricht in this matter and make a report to Moscow. Pushkin gave orders that the remarks made by Stoph should not be published in the 2 "Tägliche Rundschau" newspaper; but he could not prevent the entire speech made by Stoph including his demand for an East German national army from being published in the "Neues Deutschland" newspaper. Ulbricht and Grotewohl defended Stoph but tried to weaken the intransigence of his demands.
3. On 23 May, Pushkin's report to Moscow was answered by directives, according to which the GDR was allowed to create a national army; this fact could be mentioned in public. Nobody would take offense if the "armed fighting groups" and the GST were called "national armed forces". In the directives it was also laid down that the two organizations mentioned could be expanded. The KVP, however, must continue as KVP and its name must not be changed for the time being.

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